

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 11-19, 21, 23 and 25 remain pending in the application.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection:

Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 11-19, 21, 23 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sartore, U.S. Patent 6,012,103 in view of Clarke, U.S. Patent 4,916,692 and in further view of Murphy, U.S. Patent 5,604,906. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The teachings of Sartore and Clarke are presented in previous office action responses. Murphy teaches a system for accelerating the process of installing software on a number of computers. An image is created with the same formatting as the target drive in each computer onto which the software is to be installed. To do so, a controller determines the manner in which target drives on the computers are formatted. The image drive is then created with the same formatting, using the known target drives as a frame of reference. Once the image drive has been created and the desired software bundle loaded onto it, the software is installed on the computers from the image file, on a block-by-block basis, rather than utilizing individual file transfer under the control of a higher level file management program.

Independent claim 1 recites, in pertinent part:

“A method for configuring a peripheral bus, the method comprising ... reading configuration information from the peripheral device, wherein the configuration information includes device identification information, wherein said reading is performed over a serial side bus, wherein the serial side bus is separate from the peripheral bus, wherein the serial side bus is coupled to the host controller and the peripheral device” (Emphasis added).

Independent claim 14 recites a similar combination of features.

In the office action, the Examiner acknowledges that Sartore in view of Clarke does not expressly disclose the method or computer system where the serial side bus is separate from the peripheral bus. However, the Examiner states that Murphy discloses where a serial side bus is separate from the peripheral bus (citing Murphy in Fig. 2, item 18), and contends that the suggestion or motivation for combining Murphy with Sartore and Clarke “would have been to increase the speed of the system by separating functions performed between the host controller and peripheral devices” (citing Murphy at Column 4, lines 66-67 and Column 5, lines 1-6). Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits that the proposed suggestion/motivation would not lead to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Murphy with Sartore and Clarke in order to obtain the combinations of features recited in the independent claims.

Column 4, line 66 to column 5, line 6 of Murphy states:

“If the controller has a dual bus configuration, where one bus is connected to its internal devices and the external bus 16 is separate, additional speed is made possible by operating the two busses in parallel. For example, read requests can be sent to the internal disk drive or RAM disk over the internal bus at the same time as write commands are being sent to the computer 10 over the external bus.”

Applicant submits that in the above citation, Murphy is not referring to both a peripheral bus and a serial side bus. As the citation above notes, the dual bus configuration includes one bus connected to devices internal to controller 14 and another bus (external bus 16) which is external to the host controller. Thus, the citation presented above is silent regarding serial cable/link 18 (which is shown in Fig.’s 2 and 4 as external to controller 14). Applicant therefore submits that the above citation does not suggest any advantage that may be gained by combining Murphy with Sartore and Clarke, nor does it provide any teaching or suggestion as to how the functions performed between the host controller and the peripheral devices may be separated. For at least these reasons, Applicant disagrees with the Examiner’s contention that it would be obvious to combine Murphy with Sartore in view of Clarke in order to obtain the invention as recited in the claims.

In addition, like the other cited references, Murphy does not disclose or suggest “reading configuration information from the peripheral device ... wherein said reading is performed over a serial side bus, wherein the serial side bus is separate from the peripheral bus, wherein the serial side bus is coupled to the host controller and the peripheral device”. In regard to serial link 18, column 4, lines 38-45 of Murphy states:

“At this point, the computer 10 communicates with the controller 14 over the serial link 18, under the direction of the driver. This communication informs the controller that the computer 10 has successfully started. After receiving this communication, the controller downloads the required software bundle onto the internal disk drive of the computer 10.”

In column 6, lines 35-38 Murphy further states

“Preferably, the computer 10 is connected as in the arrangement of FIG. 2, where it starts to boot from the driver on the boot drive 12, and communicates with the controller over the serial cable 18 to inform the controller when it can have access to the bus 16.”

Applicant can find no additional details regarding operations performed over serial cable/link 18 in Murphy. Thus, the cited references, taken singly in combination, do not teach or suggest all of the elements of the independent claims.

For at least the reasons stated above, Applicant submits that a case of obviousness has not been established. Accordingly, removal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

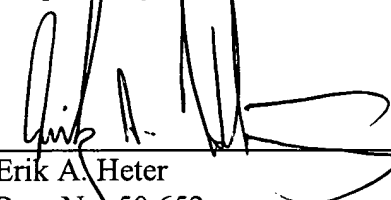
Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5500-58300/BNK.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

☐ Return Receipt Postcard

Respectfully submitted,



Erik A. Heter
Reg. No. 50,652
AGENT FOR APPLICANT(S)

Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C.
P.O. Box 398
Austin, TX 78767-0398
Phone: (512) 853-8800

Date: 7/20/05